

United by Mr. Harris, of New York, in the Senate to-day.

Whereas, the constitution of the United States declares that freedom of speech and of the press shall not be abridged, therefore, the undersigned citizens of New York, feeling it their duty to allow the New York Herald, and all other democratic papers now published in this city, to have the same rights as the government has received in information that the rebel master had come out again from Norfolk.

THE MEMORIAL AGAIN.
The city has been full of excitement to-night, over a report that the Merrimack had recommenced her pranks in Hampton Roads, but up to eleven o'clock to-night the government had received no information that the rebel master had come out again from Norfolk.

NOMINATIONS CONFIRMED BY THE SENATE.
The Senate, in executive session to-day, confirmed the following nominations:

Henry W. Reed, of Iowa, Brigadier General of Volunteers.

John C. Harrison, Second Lieutenant Third Cavalry.

George Hollister, First Lieutenant Seventh Infantry.

Colonel George Granger, of the Second Michigan Cavalry, Brigadier General.

Noah L. Jeffries, Assistant Adjutant General.

J. R. J. Rye, Jr., Surveyor of Customs at Perth Amboy, N. J.

J. H. McMath, Consul at Tangier.

Edward L. Bayly, Collector at Cherrystone, Va.

A. S. Hugston, Marshal of the Consular Court at Shanghai.

Edward H. Perkins, Consul at Santa Cruz.

John Evans, Governor of Colorado.

Wm. H. Evans, Consul at Maranhon.

Jas. L. De Graaf, Consul at Guayaquil.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The following nominations by the President were referred to the Military Committee:

Brigadier General—Geo. W. Thompson, of New York.

Major—Andrew A. Humphrey, of New York.

Major—Hartford, of the Adjutant General's Department, Alfred H. Terry, of Connecticut; Ward B. Burnett, of New York; Carl Schurz, of Wisconsin; M. S. Haskill, of Indiana; J. P. Rodman, of Rhode Island; Rufus Saxton, of Massachusetts; John W. Geary, of Pennsylvania.

For Assistant Adjutant General—F. V. L. Eno, H. W. Bowers, G. H. Johnston.

For Commissaries of Subsistence—Jos. B. Gilpin, B. F. Field.

For Assistant Quartermaster General—H. A. Lacy.

For Street Major—T. D. Callender, of Ordnance Department, for faithful and meritorious services.

For Street Lieutenant Colonel—Wm. K. Palmer, of Topographical Engineers.

For Consul at Bayonne—Geo. F. Van Wyck, of New York.

For Registrar of Land Office at Stockton, Cal.—Sylvanus T. Nye.

For Dragoon Surgeon of Volunteers—Alex. L. Walton, of New York; J. H. Boucher, of Iowa; W. H. Thoms, of Pennsylvania; B. Best, of New Jersey; W. W. Holmes, of Ohio; Thos. B. Catlin, of New York; John S. B. McLaughlin, of Maryland; J. Boyd Pendleton, of Virginia; S. L. H. Gelow, of France; Jacob Becker, of Illinois; W. N. Nassau, of Iowa; W. H. White, of Delaware; Alfred Hitchcock, of Massachusetts; Abraham Crissell, of New York; Thos. B. Rod, of Pennsylvania; Horace Wardner, of Ohio; John B. Lewis, of Connecticut; M. M. McKivier, of Illinois; F. G. Snelling, of New York; James C. Fisher, of New Jersey; E. D. Laitly, of Delaware; J. T. Bradford, of Kentucky; A. B. Sullivan, of New York; James D. Eubank, of Kentucky; Abram L. Cox, of New Jersey; Alonzo J. Phelps, of Ohio; S. M. Hamilton, of Illinois.

THE ARMY.

The promotions made by the Secretary of War for gallant services at Fort Monro and Hill Springs having been confirmed by the Senate, the commissions have been issued by the Secretary, and will soon reach those thus honored.

General Davis, of New York, has been assigned to duty in General Halleck's department.

General Hunter is on his way to take command of his Department of the South.

NAVY ORDERS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Acting Master William W. Keanon has been promoted to be an acting volunteer Lieutenant, as a reward for his gallantry during the engagement between the Merrimack and Cumberland.

Henry Johnson, of Massachusetts, and J. I. Draper, of Delaware, have been appointed Acting Assistant Surgeons in the navy.

William A. Arthur, Robert B. Smith, James W. Stapleton and Benjamin Whitmore have been appointed Acting Masters, and ordered to report to Commodore Paulding at duty.

The following persons have been permitted to present themselves for examination as candidates for the position of Acting Masters in the United States Navy in temporary service:

At New York: John Ward, Thos. Chaffin, Oscar At. Mass.; Leobner Baker, South Yarmouth, Mass.; S. Hills, New Haven, Conn.; John Hanson, Brooklyn, N. Y.; John M. Hudson, New York; O. H. Parker, Buffalo, N. Y.; Anthony Smiley, South Hackensack, N. J.; H. Townley, New Haven, Conn.; W. Williams, Baltimore, Md.; Chas. Young, Jr., Chatterbox, Mass. At the Navy Yard, Boston—Calvin Childs, Boston; John K. Crosby, Land, Mass.; Chas. A. Bourne, Brunswick, Me.; Jas. F. Corn, Boston; Sylvanus Nicholson, South Yarmouth, N. I.; I. Esterson, Truro; Chas. W. Pratt, Nashua, N. H.; John T. Stubble, Buckport, Me.

THE HISTORY OF THE FINE HIDE BATTLE.

The official report from the Navy has not yet been received, nor has that concerning the recent action near Gloucester.

RELEASE OF STATE PRISONERS.

The following persons have been released on parole—O. Allen, Samuel Jackson, Benjamin, James O. Allen, Thomas and George A. Corbly, two others, W. Jenkins and F. M. Eli, were recommended for further consideration.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS OF WAR STOPPED.

The Secretary of War has issued an order stopping the exchange of prisoners of war, taken at Fort Sumter.

It is known that an agreement for the exchange of prisoners was made some weeks ago, under the direction of the Secretary of War, by General Wool with General Sherman, by which all of our prisoners were to be delivered next day under a flag of truce at Craney Island.

A man sent to receive them, but no prisoners were brought from Norfolk. The names were reported for two days without success. Explanations were demanded by General Wool, but none furnished. Pending this breach of faith by the rebels, all release or exchange will be refused by the government.

THE CASE OF ALEXANDER CUMMINGS.

Mr. Cummings, of Massachusetts, from the committee to investigate frauds in government contracts, made a speech to-day, in reply to the statement put out in the House by Mr. Kelley, of Pennsylvania, in the case of Alexander Cummings, of New York, who purchased powder, and whose case for the army, under the administration of the War Department.

Mr. Cummings said the committee, on the 2d of December last, called the attention of the House to the proceedings of Mr. Cummings, in expending money placed in his hands by the government, and his report was based upon a testimony. That testimony was taken September 8, 1861, and placed in Mr. Cummings' hands for review, where it remained for four days. On the 6th of the month the committee called on Mr. Kelley, put on charges against the character and integrity of the committee, while every member of it was absent on duty by order of the House, and it had been published through the press. He took the first opportunity to return to the committee, and to deny the charges against him. His exposure of their shortcoming was terrible. The Pennsylvania friends of the committee would probably renew the discussion at an early day.

OFFICIALS INTERFERING WITH THE ARMY.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Fenton to-day, directing the Committee on the Conduct of the War to inquire into the cause of our troops being so severely without tents, &c., is another of the frequent meddling efforts of feather-bed soldiers in Congress to interfere with the management of the Army of the Potomac.

It is regarded by the true friends of the Union as a prelude to the civil war of the conduct of General Grant, and if possible obstruct his operations. From disposition manifested by some of the members of Congress, it is plain they would rather see the army in the hands of General Grant, and upon the broad military principles announced by the President, than resort to emancipation and saving of the lives of the South.

REBUTATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

It is denied that the recent meeting at the rooms of J. James C. English, of Connecticut, was a political one to organize a new party. The impression unaccountably prevailed that the gathering was for some purpose, but it is understood that, notwithstanding

the assemblage included the whole of the democratic element in Congress, those present were found to be quite unanimous in their determination to support the policy of the President in the conduct of the war.

THE WAR OFFICE AND THE NEWS.

It is believed that Secretary Stanton placed several newspapers, containing contraband publications, in the hands of the Committee on the Conduct of the War, who have commenced examining the same. Mr. Prime, editor of the Journal of Commerce, appeared before the committee to-day, in obedience to a summons. The editor of the Boston Journal satisfactorily explained the accidental publication of a letter from camp, and has not been summoned.

REPORT FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT RELATIVE TO THE STEAM TRANSPORT SERVICE.

The House having addressed an inquiry to the Secretary of War, he responded to-day by enclosing a letter from the Assistant Secretary of War, Mr. Tucker, in which the latter says that a very large transportation of water being required by Major General McClellan, the Quartermaster General detailed Captain H. C. Hodges, Assistant Quartermaster, to this duty, and it was requested to assist him. All parties who have offered suitable vessels in answer to the advertisement for transports were requested to meet us without further report to the newspapers. It was made as public as possible that the government was in want of such transportation, and desired to deal directly with the owners. A very large number were chartered by direct negotiation with the owners, while some made their application through ship brokers. A decided preference was given to the former. Captain Hodges and myself received only our regular compensation as Assistant Quartermaster and Assistant Secretary of War respectively. No other persons have been acting under the authority or by the direction and permission of Captain Hodges or myself to effect such charters, and consequently no compensation has been or is to be paid for such services, and no person acting directly or indirectly for the government has charged the persons from whom such vessels were chartered any percentage on the amount of the charter or any other compensation.

ALLEGED EXPOSURE AND FURNISHING OF TROOPS ON THE POTOMAC.

In the House to-day, Mr. Fenton, of New York, moved that the Committee on the Conduct of the War inquire into the cause of the exposure of large bodies of troops, belonging to the army of the Potomac, consisting of regiments, brigades, and in some instances of whole divisions, who have been deprived of shelter for days and weeks in consequence of having their orders to march and again countermanded, without adequate food and protection, and who are responsible for this needless exposure and suffering of our troops. The resolution was carried, and the committee expect to find material for a sensational investigation. They have not yet decided to summon the whole army to testify, but their action will hardly promote active operations against the rebels.

THE CONTRACT INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

The members of the Van Wyck Investigating Committee have all returned, and Colonel Van Wyck has joined his regiment.

CORRECTION.

In the dispatch in to-day's Herald alluding to the misconduct of some soldiers at Camp California, the regiment spoken of was the Fourteenth New York Volunteers, and not the thirty-fourth as printed.

Court Calendar—This Day.

Supreme Court—Circuit—1st—Nos. 1316, 337, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329, 1330, 1331, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1336, 1337, 1338, 1339, 1340, 1341, 1342, 1343, 1344, 1345, 1346, 1347, 1348, 1349, 1350, 1351, 1352, 1353, 1354, 1355, 1356, 1357, 1358, 1359, 1360, 1361, 1362, 1363, 1364, 1365, 1366, 1367, 1368, 1369, 1370, 1371, 1372, 1373, 1374, 1375, 1376, 1377, 1378, 1379, 1380, 1381, 1382, 1383, 1384, 1385, 1386, 1387, 1388, 1389, 1390, 1391, 1392, 1393, 1394, 1395, 1396, 1397, 1398, 1399, 1400, 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, 1408, 1409, 1410, 1411, 1412, 1413, 1414, 1415, 1416, 1417, 1418, 1419, 1420, 1421, 1422, 1423, 1424, 1425, 1426, 1427, 1428, 1429, 1430, 1431, 1432, 1433, 1434, 1435, 1436, 1437, 1438, 1439, 1440, 1441, 1442, 1443, 1444, 1445, 1446, 1447, 1448, 1449, 1450, 1451, 1452, 1453, 1454, 1455, 1456, 1457, 1458, 1459, 1460, 1461, 1462, 1463, 1464, 1465, 1466, 1467, 1468, 1469, 1470, 1471, 1472, 1473, 1474, 1475, 1476, 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